

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5196

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICNAF, EFIS, IT

SUBJ: US/ITALIAN INFORMAL BILATERAL FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS

COPENHAGEN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

REF: STATE 10234

1. MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT ITALIAN DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH US REPS ON JANUARY 20 (TUESDAY) FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES. (WHILE OTHER DATES ARE POSSIBLE, ITALIANS PREFER JANUARY 20.) EMBASSY HAS INFORMED US ICNAF DELEGATION REP SCHOWENGERDT. US AND ITALIAN REPS WILL MEET ON MONDAY, JANUARY 19, AT FAO TO SET TIME AND PLACE FOR INITIAL MEETING. BECAUSE OF "SENSITIVE" NATURE OF DISCUSSIONS, MFA PLANS TO PARTICIPATE; MFA REP MAY BE GUISEPPE SCAGLIA (DIRECTOR, OFFICE 1 OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE GENERAL, RESPONSIBLE FOR BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES). AS OF JANUARY 17, MINISTRY MERCHANT MARINE (MMM) FISHERIES DIRECTORATE UNCERTAIN WHO WILL REPRESENT MMM; MOST LIKELY CANDIDATES ARE LUCIANO OR BARADA, BUT PROBABLY NOT DE LEON.

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2. WHILE GOI WOULD LIKE TO CONCLUDE A BILATERAL AGREEMENT

ON FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES (AS NOTED REFTTEL),
EMBASSY BELIEVES GOI WILL BE SATISFIED WITH FULL AND FRANK
DISCUSSIONS. MMM IS BEING PRESSURED BY ITALIAN FISHERMEN'S
ASSOCIATIONS TO "GET US COAST GUARD OFF THEIR BACK". ONCE
MMM AND MFA FULLY UNDERSTAND SITUATION, AND ESPECIALLY THAT
ITALIAN FISHERMEN NOT RPT NOT BEING SINGLED OUT FOR DIS-
CRIMINATORY TREATMENT, MINISTRIES WILL BE IN MUCH BETTER
POSITION TO HANDLE ITALIAN FISHERMEN'S COMPLAINTS. FYI.
GOI REPS STILL APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT TWO ITALIAN FISHING
VESSELS ON WHICH LOBSTERS WERE FOUND IN CONTRAVENTION OF
US REGULATIONS ONLY HAD "A FEW LOBSTERS FOR THE CREW'S OWN
USE" ON BOARD. END FYI.VOLPE

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